

Attendance:

Phil Sgamma, Chairman
Matt Balling, MRC Member
Rich McNamara, MRC Member
Paul Shear, MRC Member
Lou Depowski, MRC Member
Dan Michnik, MRC Member
Jeff Grenzebach, Planning Board Liaison
Jim Callahan, Director of Community Development
Jim Hartz, Assistant Director of Community Development
Stephen Bengart, Town Attorney
Scott Bylewski, Town Board Liaison

Agenda Item I – Organizational Items

Phil Sgamma called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. to discuss organizational items. The board discussed establishing a fixed day each month to meet.

ACTION: Motion by Matt Balling, seconded by Paul Shear, that the board establish the third Monday of each Month as their fixed meeting day with agenda items to be established ten days prior for proper public notification.

QUESTION: Dan Michnik asked whether emergency meetings may be called, as needed. Everyone agreed that if they were needed, then they would be posted in accordance with the Open Meetings Law.

VOTING: All Ayes.

MOTION PASSED

Rich McNamara asked if the board members could receive a copy of the Planning Board minutes because the discussions that occur there are very relevant to the MRC deliberations.

Phil Sgamma said that the minutes of the previous meeting shall be prepared within two weeks after their meeting for review and approval at the following meeting.

Agenda Item II – Review Criteria

Phil Sgamma stated that the MRC has the authority to ask questions and receive answers that relate to the environmental impacts of projects. Having an applicant dismiss the questions until a Planning Board meeting is unacceptable. We will expect applicant's to

provide the answers to the questions that they feel relevant to the environmental impacts of a proposed project. These may include design, density, and community character types of questions.

Phil Sgamma raised the issue of the Committee's relationship to the Planning Board. Matt Balling questioned where in local law was the MRC founded. He questioned the board's relationship to the Town Board. He would like some information on these types of items. It may be wise for the Town Board to make a resolution or local law describing the purpose of the board.

Jim Callahan said that the Town Board is the legal Lead Agent under SEQRA law and that projects referred for review are to gather information to recommend actions back to the Town Board.

The board then reviewed and discussed several projects currently under review including Gables on the Green, Koby Environmental Business Park, Natale Open Area Development, and the Stage & Schurr Road Subdivision.

Jim Callahan gave the board an update on the progression of the zoning law draft and handed out the long form EAF Part I. The Planning and Zoning Office will begin the public review and comment period formally at the next Planning Board meeting. In general, the new zoning law will provide the density, lot area and use criteria as outlined in the adopted comprehensive plan.

Scott Bylewski reminded the board that the Town Board adopted the right-to-farm legislation last year and told them that they will have to take that into consideration when reviewing projects this year.

The next MRC meeting will be February 9th, 2004 at 7:00 p.m. to hold a public hearing on the Gables on the Green DEIS. The board will be meeting at 6:30 p.m. to hold a work session.

There will be a follow up MRC meeting held on February 23rd, 2004 at 6:00 p.m. to prepare responses to the public comments received for publication in a Final EIS for the project.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.